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House Engrossed

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Forty-sixth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2004

HOUSE BILL 2549

AN ACT

RELATING TO THE STATE FORESTER.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. State forester; healthy forest pilot program;
3 reports

4 The state forester shall:

5 1. Identify potential pilot programs to promote forest health,
6 including large land areas for treatment operations and fuel hazard reduction
7 efforts. The identified land areas must include substantial areas of deep
8 forest as well as the urban interface. The programs must harvest and use the
9 forest products in a manner that is science based and environmentally
10 sensitive and include measures to restore healthy water cycles to forest
11 lands.

12 2. Identify specific public-private partnerships that may be useful in
13 promoting forest health and maximizing local efforts, which may include joint
14 projects with other governments, including Indian tribes.

15 3. Work in partnership with federal agencies to set a pilot program in
16 place.

17 4. Identify necessary steps, including specific regulatory relief,
18 that may be needed in conjunction with the provisions of the Healthy Forests
19 Restoration Act (P.L. 108-148).

20 5. Take necessary steps to maximize state fire assistance grants,
21 including the establishment of timelines for the use of grant monies and the
22 reallocation of lapsed grant monies to other projects.

23 6. Submit an interim report to the governor, the president of the
24 senate and the speaker of the house of representatives on or before November
25 1, 2004 on progress accomplished to date under federal forest restoration
26 legislation, the status of the state fire assistance grant program, any other
27 federal and state programs that may be used to assist with overall healthy
28 forest management, any necessary federal regulatory relief needed to expedite
29 and optimize performance under the state and federal programs, the costs of
30 these programs and any recommended statutory changes.

31 7. Submit a final report on the progress, funding and recommendations
32 to the governor, the president of the senate, and the speaker of the house of
33 representatives on or before November 1, 2005, and provide a copy of this
34 report to the secretary of state and the director of the Arizona state
35 library, archives and public records.

36 Sec. 2. Repeal

37 This act is repealed from and after December 31, 2005.